



Utah GED Testing Information

The General Educational Development Test (GED) was developed in 1942 to measure major and lasting outcomes and concepts associated with a traditional four-year high school education. The test consists of questions in five subject areas: language arts (writing), social studies, language arts (reading), science, and mathematics. A GED Certificate is awarded upon successful completion of the five subtests. The GED Test is normed so 40 percent of graduating HS seniors would fail the GED Test.

Value of a GED: According to a survey of college admissions officers performed by the American Council on Education, approximately 95 percent of colleges and universities accept the GED in lieu of a high school diploma. **All Utah colleges and universities accept a GED.** Just as high school GPAs must be higher than average for entrance to some universities, so must GED scores be higher than average to enter certain universities. **Most employers**, including governments, accept the GED on par with a high school diploma for entry into and retention of employment.

Number of GED Examinees: Annually, about 7,000 Utah residents, with a pass rate of about 80 percent, take GED Tests in English or Spanish, or in Braille, large print, or audiocassette in either language.

Who is Currently Eligible in Utah to Take GED Tests:

1. If a person is 18 years old and his/her senior class has graduated, he/she is permitted to take the GED Test at any time.
2. If a person is 17 or 18 years old and his/her senior class has **not** graduated, he/she is required to submit the following materials to the GED testing center before GED testing is allowed:
 - a. A letter from the school district within which he/she resides indicating that he/she is not regularly enrolled in school and
 - b. A letter from his/her parent or legal guardian authorizing the test.
(Applicants who present a marriage certificate are exempt from this second requirement.)
3. Persons who are 16 or younger may NOT take the GED Tests in Utah.

Registration Requirements for GED Testing:

1. Current government-issued picture identification that has the person's name, photo, address, birth date, and signature on it
2. \$55 testing fee

Special Accommodations: Many high school students and adults have learning, emotional, or physical disabilities. GED Testing Services (GEDTS) has created a way to offer special accommodations for some of these documented disabilities. Information is available at the GED website for accommodation information and other matters.

New GED Test Series Starts January 1, 2011: Current 2002 GED Tests go into permanent mothballs and new GED Tests replace them on January 01, 2011. Hence, all examinees must complete current GED testing before GED testing centers cease using the "old" GED Tests. The combining of new scores with old scores is **not** possible.

For Internet Information: www.utahged.info

GED — "Prove Yourself"

Murray Meszaros
GED Administrator
Phone: (801) 538-7870
Fax: (801) 538-7868
murray.meszaros@schools.utah.gov

Aleta Hansen
GED Testing Assistant
Phone: (801) 538-7921
Fax: (801) 538-7868
aleta.hansen@schools.utah.gov